MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 OCTOBER 1985

Israel

Muhammad 'Abbas was involved "up to his neck" in the planning, development, and evolution of the *Achille Lauro* hijacking, IDF Intelligence chief Major General Ehud Baraq stated in a Jerusalem television interview, adding that this is supported by a very broad spectrum of evidence, most of which is "too sensitive" to reveal to the public at this time. During the interview, Baraq played a tape recording of radio conversations between the hijackers and 'Abbas, alias Abu Khalid, who told the hijackers to "apologize" to the passengers and crew of the *Achille Lauro* and tell them about "our main purpose" which "was not to take over the ship." In response the hijackers asked for a "signal" from Abu Khalid "so we know he sent the instructions." As for the current whereabouts of 'Abbas, a PDRY official denied "groundless" reports that 'Abbas is in Aden, according to Aden radio.

Maj Gen Baraq also focused on other aspects of Israel's military/security position in his interview, noting that the presence of a PLO headquarters in Amman is the "main cause" for the increased number of terrorist attacks in areas under Israeli control and warning that this headquarters is "not immune" to attack. Nevertheless, Israel's "topmost security interest" is to preserve Syria's isolation in the Arab world, he asserted, disclosing that Syria will receive MIG-29 aircraft and submarines from the Soviet Union next year and that it is already deploying surface-to-sea missiles capable of hitting ships near Israeli ports. He pointed out that Israel faces a dilemma: Real progress in the political process among Israel, the Jordanians, and the Palestinians will increase the chances of a confrontation with Syria, but a pause in this process could lead to Egypt's slide into the "circle of hostility." Baraq also viewed Jordan's request for F-16's and mobile Hawk batteries as "very serious," contending that Jordan needs mobile SAM's for nothing other than "aggression."

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told a U.S. Jewish delegation in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio that King Husayn is facing the "moment of truth" when he must decide whether to make peace with Israel "without 'Arafat" or to continue hesitating. In an interview broadcast by Jerusalem television, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir criticized Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' "premature" compliments for King Husayn, whose partnership with the PLO is "largely responsible for the increase in terrorism." Asked if Peres recently met Husayn, Shamir said he "cannot answer," and Jerusalem radio noted that in response to the same question in Washington, Peres said: "I have a short memory."

Egypt

Five opposition party leaders who met with President Husni Mubarak to discuss the Israeli air raid and the U.S. interception of the Egyptian airplane agreed that the meeting was "historic," MENA reported. The opposition leaders also said Mubarak agreed to hold periodic meetings with them to discuss national issues. Meanwhile, AFP reported that some 500 university students demanded an apology from Washington during a demonstration in a Cairo suburb and described President Reagan as an "animal.

PLO Affairs

The Palestinian refusal to sign the document presented by Britain was the result of a PLO decision at the highest levels, a PLO official cited by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio disclosed, adding that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat was "in constant touch" with the delegation that went to London. 'Arafat held talks with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn in Baghdad 16 October, the radio noted. As for Egypt's view on the cancellation of the UK-PLO talks, an *AL-AHRAM* commentary cited by MENA contended that the meeting was "torpedoed" by U.S. pressure.

Libya

Libya's intelligence chief denied in an interview with the Italian newspaper *LA REPUBBLICA* cited by KUNA that there was an attempted coup against Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

An Algerian aircraft flew at low level over a Libyan town, JANA announced, noting that the Libyan Air Force did not intercept the plane and a protest was not filed because Libya does not object to any Arab aircraft using its airspace.

Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to Damascus following a visit to Libya during which he delivered a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to Al-Qadhdhafi, SANA reported. The Libyan leader handed Khaddam a letter for Al-Asad concerning his recent visit to the Soviet Union, Tripoli radio announced.

Lebanon

The Lebanese Forces representative at the recent talks in Damascus denied AFP's report that an agreement has been signed, though he acknowledged that "much progress" was made on the issues of national accord and ending the civil war, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. As for the three kidnapped Soviet diplomats, KUNA disclosed that a caller on behalf of the Islamic Liberation Organization (ILO) told a local radio station that they will be executed if there is further delay in meeting the ILO's demands for the closure of the Soviet Embassy in Beirut and for Soviet pressure on Syria to end the latter's interference in Lebanese affairs. Islamic Amal leader Husayn al-Musawi called on the kidnappers to release their Soviet hostages, IRNA noted.

In southern Lebanon "terrorists" attacked the Voice of Hope television station 17 October, Jerusalem radio announced, adding that the station ceased broadcasting after the building was

damaged by an explosion. One civilian worker, one army of southern Lebanon soldier, and three terrorists were killed in the incident, the radio said. The station was observed to come back on the air at 0902 GMT on 17 October on the 945 khz frequency and was carrying religious songs.

Syria-Iraq

Sources told Radio Monte Carlo that a meeting is planned within the next few days in Saudi Arabia between Syrian and Iraqi officials as a first step toward holding a political dialogue between the two countries. The meeting is within the framework of efforts by the committee for clearing the Arab atmosphere established at the Arab summit in Casablanca.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian naval officials at one of Iran's southern ports began inspecting the "suspicious cargo" of an FRG ship intercepted at the Strait of Hormuz 15 October, IRNA announced.

Iran

Majlis deputies who voted against Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi should not create "obstacles" for the new government in order to prove themselves right, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni said in a speech broadcast by Tehran radio. He stressed that any "unhappy confrontations" in the Majlis will have an adverse effect on the entire country. Khomeyni also said the Army and Revolution Guards Corps should fight the war and not "interfere" in politics. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Musavi said the new cabinet will have more members from "revolutionary" organizations, IRNA reported.

Pakistan

In remarks reported by Karachi radio following the National Assembly's unanimous adoption of the constitution eighth amendment bill, Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo said passage of the bill marks the first step toward lifting martial law.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 201 *17 October 1985*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Karmal Condemns U.S. 'Warmongering' Policies ..... C 1
Karmal Meets With Visiting CPI Delegation ..... C 1
BAKHTAR on U.S. Allocations for Rebel Forces ..... C 1
Indian Delegation Holds News Conference, Departs ..... C 2
Pakistan: Afghan Tribes Demand End to Hostilities *[DAWN 9 Oct]* ..... C 2
FRG TV: USSR Using Poison Gas in Afghanistan *[ARD]* ..... C 3

INDIA

Bhandari: Tamil-Sri Lankan Talks to Continue ..... E 1
Commonwealth Summit To Pressure UK on S. Africa ..... E 1

PAKISTAN

National Assembly Passes Constitution Amendment Bill ..... F 1
Junejo Greets Iranian Counterpart on Reelection ..... F 1
Noorani on India's Reported Attack Plans ..... F 1
PAKISTAN TIMES on Relations With USSR *[11 Oct]* ..... F 2
Interior Minister Says 136 Students Went to USSR ..... F 2

OTHER COUNTRIES

BANGLADESH

Hurricane Spawns Tidal Waves in South *[AFP]* ..... G 1

NEPAL

More Banned Party Leaders Released From Jail *[AFP]* ..... G 1

SRI LANKA

Cease-Fire Monitoring Committee Holds First Meeting ..... G 1
Tamils Claim Troops Kill Muslims in Trincomalee *[AFP]* ..... G 1

IRAN

Khomeyni Speech to Majlis Deputies 16 Oct ..... I 1
Khamene'i Officially Appoints Musavi Prime Minister ..... I 2
Musavi: New Cabinet More 'Revolutionary' ..... I 2
President Denies Other 'Forces' To Supplant Army ..... I 3
Khamene'i Receives Ambassador to Japan ..... I 3
Majlis Speaker Addresses Deputies 16 Oct ..... I 3
Foreign Ministry Official Visits Greece ..... I 3
Ayatollah Jananti Visits Lebanon's Tripoli ..... I 3
Syria's Al-Zu'bi Addresses Majlis Delegates ..... I 4
International Oil Sources Affirm Khark Oil Flowing ..... I 4
Paper on Syrian-Iranian Relations, Jordan *[JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI 19 Sep]* ..... I 4
German Ship Stopped, Directred to Port ..... I 5
Examination of Cargo ..... I 5

French Ship Allowed to Proceed to UAE ..... I 5
Volunteers Continue to Leave for Front ..... I 5
Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq ..... I 5
Communique No 2,260 ..... I 5
Abadan Shelled ..... I 6
IRNA Reports Afghan Radio Stations Destroyed ..... I 6

Karmal Condemns U.S. 'Warmongering' Policies
LD170648 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0451 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Kabul, October 16, OANA-BAKHTAR — The high jirga (assembly) of the frontier tribes, based on the customs and traditions of the Afghan tribes, was convened in a high patriotic, free and democratic atmosphere with the active participation of the credible representatives of people. The high jirga fully approved the foreign and domestic policies of the PDPA and ratified the unshakeable, great and ever-lasting Afghan-Soviet friendship. This was stated by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the RC [revolutionary Council] of the DRA at a meeting of the workers and staff of the AFSOTR Transport Company held on the occasion of observing the United Political Day.

Babrak Karmal added that the high tribal jirga expressed the clear-cut stand of the Afghan people in defending the independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country, wiping out the counter-revolutionaries and materializing socioeconomic transformations in the reisdential areas of tribes and nationalities.

Babrak karmal, moreover, stated that the convocation of the high jirga of frontier tribes showed the undeniable iron solidarity of the Afghan people to smash the intrigues hatched by U.S. imperialism, Chinese hegemonism, Pakistani generals, the reactionary forces of Iran and all the enemies of Afghanistan. Even the enemies of the Afghan people confessed to the fact that such jirga had no precedence in the history of jirgas in Afghanistan from the viewpoint of quality and quantity.

The Afghan compatriots, all in unison, put into practice the resolutions of the high tribal jirga. They will transform the frontiers of the country into a flower garden for the friends of Afghanistan and the Afghan people and into a graveyard for the foes of the latter.

In connection with the international situation and the ensurance of peace as the vital task of mankind, Babrak Karmal strongly condemned the war-mongering policies of U.S. imperialism and its allies. Babrak Karmal, moreover, stressed the decisive support of the PDPA, the Government of the DRA and the Afghan people to the creative USSR peaceful proposals, presented by Mikhail Gorbachev. Afterwards, Babrak Karmal answered the questions posed by the workers and staff of AFSOTR on the policy of the PDPA and the Government of the DRA in a free and democratic atmosphere.

The united Political day on the resolution of the high jirga of frontier tribes was widely marked throughout the DRA. The high-ranking party and state leaders participated in the gatherings held on the occasion in various ministries, cultural and work establishments, enterprises, etc.

Karmal Meets With Visiting CPI Delegation
LD160730 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0455 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Kabul, October 15, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of Revolutionary Council of the DRA, received Raj Bahadur Gohr, member of the Executive Committee of the National Council of the Communist Party of India, and secretary of the All-India Trade Union and talked with them in an atmosphere of friendship and sincerity.

Babrak Karmal described to the visiting Indian delegation the constructive, reasonable and peaceful stand of the DRA vis-a-vis its neighbouring countries as well as in international arena.

Shedding light on the traditional friendly relations between the peoples of Afghanistan and India and the existing revolutionary solidarity between the PDPA and the Communist Party of India, the leader of the Afghan nation expressed its best wishes for the ever-further consolidation of friendship between the parties of the two countries.

Babrak Karmal lauded the peaceful stand taken by the friendly country of India for the solution of international problems and the efforts made by it for ensuring a stable peace all over the world. He attached a high importance to the efforts of non-aligned countries, presently headed by India, devoted to the defence of the world peace.

Later, the Indian delegation assured Babrak Karmal of the firm support of the Communist Party of India for safeguarding the gains of the April Revolution of 1978.

They expressed confidence that the existing friendly relations will be expanded between the Communist Party of India and the PDPA.

BAKHTAR on U.S. Allocations for Rebel Forces
LD162017 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0432 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Kabul, October 15, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes:

Additional allocation of 300 million dollars for counter-revolutionaries approved by the U.S. legislators on the request of Reagan administration, is another fresh evidence of White House aspiration to extend an undeclared war against Afghanistan. It is significant that this huge sum will be spent on acquiring the latest weapons and ammunition, including anti-aircraft missile systems for Afghan bandits.

Today the Afghan counter-revolutionaries have U.S. missiles Red Eye and Stinger and surface-to-surface missiles. Early this year it was reported that the U.S. administration decided to by the latest anti-aircraft installations [words indistinct] in Italy and send them to dushmans.

The U.S. actions, which violate the norms of relations between sovereign states, will draw Pakistan and other U.S. allies still more in the U.S. venture and seriously aggravate the situation in Asia. Intervention in the internal affairs [words indistinct] becomes more international. The recent report of the Australian Foreign Ministry on sending a team of Australian surgeons to Peshawar proves that they will work on the home front thwarting the bloody actions of Afghan counter-revolutionary gangs.

Even *THE WASHINGTON POST* wants to know what the U.S. administration's decision will lead to. Washington openly advocates stable weapon supplies to Afghan terrorists in 1986-1987.

In this situation the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan will have to take additional measures to defend its sovereignty. At this year's Loya Jirga and higher jirga of the frontier Afghan tribes, the Afghan people voiced their determination to combat the U.S. imperialist aggression. The Afghan tribes firmly declared that they will take an active part in defending the borders. They also confirmed their support of their government, which had asked the USSR for assistance in defending the national sovereignty and independence of Afghanistan. In their resolution, the representatives of frontier tribes expressed their gratitude to the Soviet Union for efficient economic and military assistance.

The participants in the higher jirga supported Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, who said that the Afghan Government will ask the USSR not to withdraw its limited contingent of forces till the end of the aggression against Afghanistan. In his recent interview to the Pakistani newspaper *THE MUSLIM* Babrak Karmal emphasized that Afghanistan had asked the USSR for military assistance just because of the intensification of organized aggression and intervention.

Afghanistan has true friends — the socialist countries. That is why million-dollar handouts will not help its enemies make the Afghan people turn off the road of progress, true freedom and democracy.

Indian Delegation Holds News Conference, Departs

LD170634 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 17 Oct 85

[Text] Kabul, October 16, BAKHTAR — Delegation of the Communist Party of India headed by Raj Bahadur Gohr, member of the Executive Committee of the National Council of the Communist Party of India and secretary of All-India Trade Unions granted a press conference on Tuesday about his tour of revolutionary Afghanistan. [sentence as received]

Raj Bahadur Gohr, the head of the delegation, said: "Defence of the revolution of Afghanistan is the defence of the peace of the region as well as that of the world and it is the duty of all progressive and peaceful mankind to support the revolution of Afghanistan, this has been done so far."

He said that the people of Afghanistan are not alone in their struggle, the progressive people of India and other peaceful countries of the world are on their side.

The head of the delegation stated that it is evident that the reactionary forces in collusion with Reagan administration have waged an undeclared war against the revolution and the people of Afghanistan and it is the U.S. imperialism which is striving to slow down the social progress of the country.

Raj Bahadur Gohr added that the delegation during their stay in Afghanistan found out that the people of Afghanistan are firmly defending the gains of the April Revolution and they are resolutely prepared to render contribution to the party and state of the DRA. He referred to his eyewitness that women alongside the men have taken up arms to defend their revolution. [sentence as received]

The press conference was attended by domestic and foreign journalists.

The delegation of the Communist Party of India participated in a dinner reception given in their honour by the Central Committee of the PDPA.

The delegation left Kabul for India today. They were seen off at Kabul International Airport by Mahmoud Barialay, alternate member of Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA.

The delegation during their stay was received by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA and other high-ranking party and state officials.

The delegation of the Communist Party of India participated in a dinner reception given in their honour by the Central Committee of the PDPA.

Pakistan: Afghan Tribes Demand End to Hostilities

GF161201 Karachi DAWN in English 9 Oct 85 p 4

[Excerpt] Peshawar, Oct 8: A joint Jirga [tribal assembly] of tribal representatives from all the seven Agencies and the provincially-administered tribal area, called "frontier Regions" as well as representatives of Afghan refugee elders in the Province on Tuesday demanded immediate recognition of the Karmal Government, end of hostilities in Afghanistan, closure of training camps, and solution of the Afghan problem through direct talks with the present Kabul Government.

Acting as the spokesman for the tribal and refugee elders, Mr Mohammad Afzal Khan, provincial chief of the outlawed National Democratic Party, said at a Press conference here that unsettled conditions in Afghanistan were directly affecting the Pukhtoon nation on both sides of the border, and it was undergoing a process of annihilation due to the superpowers' tussle in Afghanistan. He refered to the refugees as "brother Pukhtoons" against whom atrocities were being perpetrated due to involvement of American and Soviet interests. Both of them were confronting each other at the cost of Afghan blood.

He warned that if the situation did not improve soon, the consequences would be far too damaging for Pukhtoons on this side of the border, as the Kabul Government could exercise its right of "hot pursuit".

Afzal Khan called upon the Government of Pakistan and world powers to realise the critical nature of the situation.

FRG TV: USSR Using Poison Gas in Afghanistan
DW160937 Hamburg ARD Television Network in German 1900 GMT 15 Oct 85

[Text] Western diplomats report that the Soviet forces obviously are using poison gas in Afghanistan. About 30 Afghan Government soldiers and several civilians were killed by such gas in early October. It is unclear whether this incident involved wrong handling of, or a mishap with, the agent described as misty. The Afghan rebels had on several earlier occasions charged the Soviet Union with using poison gas.

Bhandari: Tamil-Sri Lankan Talks to Continue
BK120734 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 Oct 85

[Text] The foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, has said that indirect negotiations between the Sri Lankan Government and the Tamil groups through the good offices of India will continue. Talking to newsmen in New Delhi, Mr Bhandari said direct talks to find a solution to the ethnic problem will take place at a right time. The current round of talks between Mr Bhandari and the Tamil groups was adjourned yesterday and will be resumed after the prime minister's foreign visit. Mr Bhandari pointed out that Mr Gandhi and the Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, will discuss the issue when they meet in Bahamas. Mr Bhandari said India is satisfied at the agreement on the [cease-fire] monitoring group and its terms of reference. Although the monitoring group has no preventive role, it can bring moral pressure to bear on the two sides by reporting the facts of a particular cease-fire violation.

Commonwealth Summit To Pressure UK on S. Africa
BK161703 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT 16 Oct 85

["Spotlight" -- voice dispatch from Nassau by All India Radio Correspondent Manohar Takroo]

[Excerpts] In a shortwhile from now, heads of government of nearly 50 countries spanning the entire globe will begin their meeting in Nassau, the enchanting capital of an enchanting country called the Bahamas. What binds these countries together is the Commonwealth link. Their meetings will continue for a whole week. In between they will take a recess, which has come to be known as the retreat, during which they spend a relaxed weekend at a distant island said to be even more enchanting than Nassau. Here they will be all by themselves with no aides.

For the 1985 Commonweath summit, there is no dearth of international crisis that the leaders will be expected to address themselves to. The only episode is the rapidly worsening situation in South Africa. No prizes need be offered for foreseeing that it is this issue and its ramification that is going to dominate the proceedings of the summit here in Nassau within the next few days. This is not so only because the composition of the Commonwealth is such that any issue involving human dignity and freedom instantly becomes a matter of great concern to its members — most of whom have made enormous sacrifices within their own freedom and dignity. It is also so because the international community itself is now feeling outraged at the happenings in South Africa as symbolized by the unanimous denunciation of the Pretoria regime by the United Nations. Even the United States, which is following an attitude not altogether sympathetic to the oppressed majority of the South African population, is now changing its stand. Indeed, Bahamas being at the doorstep of the United States so to say, Washington is reportedly watching the proceedings of the Nassau summit with more than its customary indifference to such gathering, particularly in the context of the growing turbulance in South Africa.

Besides several other advanced nations, the United States too is reaching the conclusion that the inhuman racist regime in Pretoria might after all be approaching its Waterloo. In all this the attitude of the British Government especially on the issue of sanctions against South Africa has been puzzling most observers and therefore, the stand that Mrs Margaret Thatcher takes here at the Commonwealth summit is being watched with a serious interest and expectation. Already there are whispers that Britain stands totally isolated since even countries like Australia and New Zealand and Canada regard the British Government stand as indefensible.

Though that ebullient and ever optimistic secretary general of the Commonwealth, Dr Ramphal, is confident that at the end of the day Britain will fall in line with the rest of the Commonwealth, the interest right now centers on how this is to be brought about.

For altogether different reasons India's handling of the issue is also being in the watch because it has particularly been in vanguard of the fight for human freedom everywhere. There is another Indian initiative in dismantling the South African racist set up and what form it takes is being mentioned in the lobby. However, whatever India does has essentially to be behind the scene, especially in the Commonwealth context where all discussions are held in camera.

National Assembly Passes Constitution Amendment Bill
BK170333 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 17 Oct 85

[Text] The National Assembly unanimously adopted the Constitution Eighth Amendment Bill late last night. The House unanimously approved amendments to 7 Clauses of the bill and adopted 10 clauses without any amendments during the second reading. The house deleted two clauses. The adoption of the bill followed the achievement of a consensus among members of the entire House. The National Assembly also adopted a resolution introduced by Sahabzada Mohammad Ahmed asking the prime minister to set up a commission to submit a report to the parliament within 6 months on amendments to and changes in the constitution under which the holy Koran and the teachings of the holy prophet will be the supreme law of the country; this will be the main source and means of law and policy framing. The amendments to be made to the constitution in this regard will be presented in the next session of the National Assembly in the form of a new constitutional amendment bill. The commission will also suggest ways to accelerate the process of Islamization in the country and will submit a report to the parliament regarding progress toward this end.

Speaking after the adoption of the bill, Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo thanked the House for unanimously passing the bill, saying both parliamentary and presidential forms of government have been tried in the country in the past, but the people of Pakistan want and will accept only a parliamentary form of government. He said the Constitution Eighth Amendment Bill was brought to the House in deference to the aspirations of the people and the desire of the members of this House. The adoption of the bill marks the first step toward lifting martial law. This creates a balance between the powers of the president and the prime minister, and the prime minister will be able to run the civilian government effectively. The second step will be the Political Parties Act, which will be presented in the next session of the National Assembly. The third step will be the lifting of martial law.

The prime minister once again referred to his announcement made in Lahore on 14 August that the 31st of December will be the last day for martial law; there will be no martial law on 1 January of next year. However, he hopes that martial law will be lifted even before that day.

Mohammad Khan Junejo said the country is having a unique experience. Martial law and the civilian government are working shoulder to shoulder. He said a little more patience is required to pass through this transitional period of 2 and 1/2 months so that martial law can be eliminated forever.

Referring to the enforcement of the Islamic system, the prime minister said the problems of the people can be solved only through meaningful enforcement of the Islamic system. He said the resolution adopted by the house marks the first step toward the realization of this goal. He said Pakistan was established for the enforcement of Islamic laws, but, unfortunately, during the past 37 years, no practical steps have been taken toward this end. President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq is the only person who has taken steps to enforce the Islamic system in the country. The prime minister declared that the purpose of Pakistan's establishment was to enforce the Islamic system, and we are now marching toward this goal so that we can protect the rights of the people.

Junejo said that judging by the manner in which we are marching ahead with our program, we will succeed in realizing the goal of complete democracy in the country. He thanked National Assembly speaker Syed Fakr Imam, who heard the speeches by members of the House with patience and carried forward the proceedings of the House in a grand manner.

The speaker thanked the House for adopting the bill in complete unanimity and expressed the hope that the House will continue to work with the same spirit it has shown in the proceedings during the adoption of this bill. He expressed confidence that the members of the National Assembly will fulfill their promises to [words indistinct] of their friends and to try to make Pakistan an Islamic democratic state. He paid tribute to the deputy speaker, Sardar Wazir Ahmad Jogezai, and the National Assembly staff for discharging their duties efficiently. He also thanked the press, the radio, and the television for keeping the people informed of the House proceedings. The House resumes its session at 0915 this morning.

Junejo Greets Iranian Counterpart on Reelection
BK170052 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has felicitated Mir Hoseyn Musavi-Khamene'i on the latter's reelection as Iranian prime minister and said that the election is clear evidence of the brotherly Iranian people's confidence in his prudent leadership. In his message, the prime minister expressed the hope that the existing friendly and brotherly relations between Pakistan and Iran will continue to grow for the benefit on the people of both countries.

Noorani on India's Reported Attack Plans
BK161624 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani reaffirmed at the National Assembly this afternoon that Pakistan desires peace, friendship, mutual coexistence, and cooperation with India on the basis of respect for each other for the benefit of the people of both the countries. He was speaking on 14 identical adjournment motions seeking a debate on the press reports on India's alleged preparations for attacking [Pakistan's] nuclear installations at Kahuta. He said that Pakistan has carefully taken notice of the reports that India is making preparations to use its air force planes after putting Afghan markings on them to attack Pakistan's nuclear installations. Zain Noorani said that recently the Indian prime minister made false, baseless, fabricated and exaggerated allegations about Pakistan's nuclear program. He said that the Indian prime minister, while raising a hue and cry for such apprehension, tried to incite the foreign powers as well against Pakistan, saying that it may be possible that Pakistan will give the atom bomb to other countries also. He

said that the Indian press also joined in fanning the propaganda. He said that Pakistan is confident that Indian public opinion is not that simple and silly that it can be misguided by such false and fabricated propaganda.

The state minsiter said that Pakistan does not merely recognize the need to stabilize mutual confidence, but it has taken several concrete steps in this regard. On nuclear issue also, Pakistan made special proposals for making South Asia a nuclear-free zone. He said that Pakistan is ready to accept international responsibilities and agreements to implement its proposals which include the declaration for renouncing nuclear weapons. He clarified that it is India which is not ready to accept any restriction about nuclear weapons. He said that it is India which possesses and amount of plutonium enough for producing more than [words indistinct] atom bomb, and it has already carried out nuclear explosion. The federal minister said that if any kind of aggression is launched against Pakistan, it will defend itself. He said Pakistan has also the means to trace the aggressor. He said that we will take every possible step to afflict a heavy blow on any one launching aggression against Pakistan.

PAKISTAN TIMES on Relations With USSR

GF161416 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English 11 Oct 85 p 12

[Report by the PAKISTAN TIMES staff correspondent]

[Text] Karachi, Oct. 10: Mr. Abdul Rakhman Ogly Vezirov, the ambassador of the Soviet Union in Pakistan said here today that the Soviet Union stood and stands for ever-lasting and good-neighbourly relations with Pakistan, not only because of its large population but being an important region.

Speaking at an introductory reception at the institute of International Affairs this evening, Mr. Vezirov declared the reception as meaningful in the sense that such meetings would greatly help in promoting and understanding the problems concerning each others.

The Soviet Ambassador reiterated that his country stands for good-neighbourly relations with all countries in the region particularly with Pakistan.

He said that the main task of our foreign policy is the struggle for peace because nobody gains in war.

He said that we have improved our friendly ties with China and France following the recent visits to France by Soviet delegation which have proved very fruitful. He hoped that the forthcoming summit meeting between Soveit Union and the United States leadership would also prove production enabling to cut the arms race to a large extent.

The ambassador disclosed that the Soviet Union is providing 1.4 per cent of its GNP for the assistance of the developing and neighbouring countries and added that not a single country of the world could claim such a high rate of economic assistance to the developing countries.

Welcoming the chief guest, Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Ghulam Umar, adminsitrator of the Institute of International Affairs said: "Philosophy of Islam gives the highest importance to the neighbours, and the people of Pakistan want to live with honour and peace and friendly relations with neighbourly countries in the region."

Interior Minister Says 136 Students Went to USSR

BK130935 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 13 Oct 85

[Text] The interior minister, Mohammad Aslam Khan Khatak, told the National Assembly that 136 students have gone unofficially to Soviet Union for higher studies. He said it is not possible to prevent such people totally from going out because the Pakistan-Afghan border area is extremely (?vulnerable). He said besides educational, board, and lodging facilities, most of the students going to Afghanistan and Soviet Union are provided with pocket expenses and other facilities too.

BANGLADESH

Hurricane Spawns Tidal Waves in South

HK170724 Hong Kong AFP in English 0704 GMT 17 Oct 85

[Text] Dhaka, Oct 17 (AFP) — A hurricane has swept in from the Bay of Bengal to lash the southern coastline of Bangladesh, officials here said today.

The officials said that the hurricane left a trail of devastation yesterday, whipping up huge waves and carrying torrential rain, but there were no reports of causualties.

Some Dhaka newspapers today said that tidal waves of up 10 feet (three metres) high swamped off-shore islands including Urirchar which bore the brunt of a hurricane in May that claimed 10,000 lives.

Details of the damage the hurricane wrought on the coastal areas and off-shore islands was expected here later today, officials said.

NEPAL

More Banned Party Leaders Released From Jail

HK161520 Hong Kong AFP in English 1513 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Kathmandu, Oct 16 (AFP) — Several political prisoners, some of them leaders of the banned Nepal Communist Party, were released unconditionally from jail here today, official sources said.

Two assistant general secretaries of the banned Nepal Congress, Basu Risal and Yug Nath Sharma, were also among those released after nearly four months detention under the Security Act.

More than 2,000 activists of the parties were arrested in the last week of May for political agiiation demanding the revival of the multi-party system in Nepal, which has a partyless system of government.

Home Ministry sources said that by this weekend all the activists jailed for the civil disobedience movement campaign would be released. Some 1,000 were already out, they said.

SRI LANKA

Cease-Fire Monitoring Committee Holds First Meeting

BK161335 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Excerpt] The first meeting of the monitoring committee was held at the Defense Ministry in Colombo today. The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, told the SLBC [Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation] that the committee is free to investigate any violation of the cessation of hostilities and will be given government's facilities and support on request. It would not be subject to take any influence or pressure. Once an incident of any violation of the cease-fire was reported to the committee, it would have to ascertain the truth by itself. For this purpose it will form its own procedures and schedule.

Mr Athulathmudali said that when the committee inquires into violations or incidents, it should report directly to the president. All facilities, including transport, will be provided to the members of the committee to attend to their work. They will also be provided with telephones so that any member of the public could report to them directly or make any complaints to them.

Mr (Felix Dayepadesingh) was elected as secretary of the committee. The chairman of the committee will be elected by the committee itself. Ten members of the committee were present at today's meeting.

Tamils Claim Troops Kill Muslims in Trincomalee

HK161500 Hong Kong AFP in English 1447 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 16 (AFP) — Sri Lankan troops killed 12 Muslims in the eastern Sri Lankan town of Trincomalee, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) today quoted a Tamil separatist spokesman as saying.

The spokesman of the Eelam information office in Madras, southern India, said the attack yesterday was part of a plan to drive a wedge between Tamils and Moslems in Trincomalee, PTI said.

The army had planned to blame Tamil separatists for the slayings but residents discovered the army was itself responsible, the spokesman had said.

Two Tamil civilians were killed by troops at Omanthai last Saturday, the spokesman said, adding that the Sri Lankan government's announcement that it had raided a separatist Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO) camp was false.

The camp had been abandoned long ago, he said.

Khomeyni Speech to Majlis Deputies 16 Oct
LD161624 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Speech by Ayatollah Khomeyni during a meeting with Majlis deputies on 16 October — place not specified; recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I first of all wish to apologize to the gentlemen for having inconvenienced them. There are certain issues which made me want to meet with the gentlemen and to say that which it is my duty to say.

The first point is that there is nothing to be worried about. I confirm [support] to the Majlis, and I have always called on the nation to support the Majlis. The Majlis is one of those organizations that should be supported by all of us, and no one has the right to utter an insult with regard to it. It is correct for the Majlis to have members who are for or against or those who abstain. This is something which has taken place [reference to some deputies voting against the prime minister] and there should be no discussion regarding it.

The issue which made me inconvenience the gentlemen is the future. That which has passed has passed. It is a fact that the Majlis has given to the prime minister a vote of confidence. This is a fact which all of us [should accept]. The situation which has arisen in the Majlis — that there have been votes for and against and abstentions — is due to the fact that this is how the deputies have judged the situation; and there is no discussion concerning that. The main point is whether those who have opposed the wish to create obstacles for those gentlemen [of the new government] from now on; whether they wish to act in the Western style; whether they wish to defeat Islam to prove that they were correct [in their vote]; whether they wish to defeat the Islamic Republic; or whether logic demands that now that this situation has arisen, it would be better that if everything has not been done in a befitting way and if it could have been done better, they [not specified] should guide them.

Those [who voted against the prime minister] should give assistance so that things are done properly so that all will [give a vote of confidence] at the future session, and not create obstacles so that under the very sensitive situation which we are facing -- God forbid -- the government is led to defeat. This is something which would be against Islam, and against the country's and your own interests.

If you believe in Islam and are true in your beliefs, as you are, and if you believe that the country should advance with strength and should become victorious in the war, that the road is blocked to the superpowers, that our country may become strong, you should try to endorse [the government], and not to criticize. You should engage in healthy criticism, which is effective in the betterment of the issues; and guide the government in everything that it wishes to do. These are issues which are necessary. However, if one day -- God forbid -- you create obstacles for the government in order to prove yourselves right and lead it to defeat, weaken the nation, and weaken the government, and lead Islam to defeat, this is something which certainly must be stopped. I hope that it will not be so.

The Majlis today is not as it was in the past when the deputies talked among themselves in a closed and confined place, and would later publish what they wanted and omit what they wanted. The issues of the Majlis are broadcast live today and even those working on farms have radios and listen to the debates. Our nation today is not as it was in the past when it was not interested in the issues. Our nation is now aware and vigtilant and observes everything. The gentlemen should know that if -- God forbid -- there are certain temptations one day or if a person wishes to incite and create temptations, if he wishes to weaken the government from inside and outside [the Majlis], and wishes to prevent issues from advancing and the things which are in keeping with Islam from being implemented, the people are watching, they are aware and will not keep silent. Therefore, my emphatic recommendation to the gentlemen is that you who have seen that the government has not been able to act in the way which is desirable, should encourage them [members of the government], support them, cooperate with them, and help them from now on so that your country will advance on a healthy path. You should refrain from those things contrary to the will of God and to the will of the nation.

On the other hand, I would like to say to those who are on the other side [those who endorsed the government], did so because you regarded it to be right. If in the future you witness an incorrect action by the government, it would also not be permissible for you to endorse the government on the grounds that you had seen fit to endorse the government and to try to prove your point.

As it has always been stressed, the Majlis is a consultative Islamic assembly. It is not like a majlis in other parts of the world which is not concerned with Islamic issues and has nothing to do with religion. This Majlis is Islamic and the views should be well-meaning Islamic views, both regarding the government and regarding the ministers. The ministers that you appoint, as has been said in the past, should be capable. Ministers who are not capable of doing anything should not be appointed. They should be active. You should help by making sure that such ministers are appointed and do this as soon as possible. At the moment, we face many difficulties. The government should not be absent for a long time. The Majlis should act according to its duties and the president too should back up the ministers as he sees fit, as is his prerogative. You Majlis deputies should carry this out as soon as possible. You should not allow it to drag on, because it is harmful to Islam; it is harmful to the country. Today, the country is not like certain other countries in the world where if the government is not able to function for 10 days, 40 days, 50 days; 1 month, 2 months, or 3 months it does not pose any problems. Today, even 1 day is critical for the government and the government should be functioning.

Therefore, what I am saying is that you gentlemen should express your views, make constructive ctiticism, and advise. You should not make hostile criticism. In pre-agenda speeches, in debates after the appointment of ministers, you should not insult others. This is not worthy of you gentlemen. You should not attack each other. Neither those in the majority, nor those in the minority, nor those who have abstained. No one should do this. For, this is against God's wishes and contrary to religious law. Of course, one should criticize. One should point out problems. Whatever

comes to mind should be said. If it is not said, that is wrong. Therefore, one point is that your dealings should be Islamic and healthy, be they in the Majlis, or elsewhere. Another point is that the Majlis should speedily [appoint] the ministers — of course with great care — so that affairs are not interrupted. We are in a situation; we are at war; we have problems; there are plots. We should speedily do this job, so that -- God willing -- this country would be such and such [as heard].

I recommend to the armed forces, including the army, support bodies, and the guards, do not interfere in politics. People should not go to the fronts and relate who said what. It is not their business. They should be fighting the war. I am not saying they should not know what goes on in the Majlis, but that they should not interfere. They should know that if there are any worries or unhappy incidents at the Majlis, it effects the fronts, the factories, agriculture, and everything. This is up to you. You have a great responsibility at present. You should behave in such a way that...[Khomeyni leaves sentence unfinished].

If -- God forbid -- there are any unhappy confrontations, they would have an adverse effect on the whole country and cause anxiety. On the other hand, obviously plots exist in our country, and -- God forbid -- they may exacerbate the situation and cause disturbances.

I recommend to all the nation to keep calm in this matter, not do anything that might disturb the peace, endorse the Majlis and the deputies, and not say a word about what has happened. They should take care that things go well in the future.

Another matter that I wanted to mention is that, right from the start we have supported the armed forces. They [not identified] wanted to dissolve the army; they had an ulterior motive; they wanted to destroy the army. They were saying: We want such and such a type of army. Then, I opposed it and said that we need the army. Thank God, that is over now and we have a very good army; it is serving. I support it as I support the guards. They should all work together, to safeguard the country. The army and the guards corps should not think that they are separate entities. They are all one force for maintaining security, safeguarding the country and Islam. This is the duty of us all; the Majlis, the government, the clergy, the nation, the army, and the guards should perform this duty. We should all stand united in face of plots and help the country advance. Thank god, our country is stable, independent, and progressive now. It depends on the Majlis tackling things correctly, and then comes the rest.

I hope that you will all be successful; that you support Islam and complete your task. Peace and God's mercy be upon you. [cheers from the crowd]

Khamene'i Officially Appoints Musavi Prime Minister

LD171013 Tehran IRNA in English 0942 GMT 17 Oct 85

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 17, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i here Thursday in a letter reaffirmed appointment of Hoseyn Musavi as the prime minister. The Majlis last Sunday gave a vote of confidence to Musavi who earlier was proposed by the president for the post of premiership.

Part of the letter said "under present conditions that the country was engaged in the Iraqi-imposed war, there is a need for an unceasing effort and committed, sincere, and competent colleagues to meet the needs and expectations of the revolution and the people in the new term of the Republic."

The president further added that key to success was formation of a cabinet made up of committed personalities who employ their competency in accordance with the needs of the present time. He said that within this framework members of the new cabinet, far from any factionalism, would serve their mission.

Musavi: New Cabinet More 'Revolutionary'

LD161213 Tehran IRNA in English 1105 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 16, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said here Wednesday that the new cabinet will have more members from the revolutionary organisations. The future cabinet, said the prime minister speaking after a cabinet ministers session, will give a stronger, clearer and more explicit support to the revolutionary foundation.

When asked whether there will be an extensive change in the new cabinet, he said "there will be changes, we will see a number of new faces." However, he declined to give more details.

He stressed that the service of all forces should be utilised in the executive affairs of the country and added that the list of the new cabinet members will be handed over to the president in the next few days.

The prime minister further expressed the hope that there will be "stronger and constructive coordination between the prime minister and the president, a coordination which existed before."

Prime minister Musavi whose second term in office was confirmed by a vote of confidence of the Majlis last Sunday, thanked Imam Khomeyni for always supporting the government. He stressed that in fact the executive power is inspired by the imam.

As for the relation of the government with the Majlis, he said that like the previous term there will be a sincere and close cooperation with the Majlis and the government will formulate its policies as such so that the Majlis will maintain its power.

Elaborating further on make up of the future cabinet, he said that great deal of consultations with the Majlis deputies and various foundations have been going on and all the proposed candidates which make up a lvst of hundreds of names were being studied.

As for the stance of the government towards the Iraqi-imposed war, he said "The government will tread on the slogan of the war, war, till victory and all other programmes will be overshadowed by the war." He further added, "In this connection the government will be backing the leadership."

He described the Iraqi claims of having damaged the Iranian Khark oil terminal, as baseless.

President Denies Other 'Forces' To Supplant Army
LD170852 Tehran IRNA in English 0805 GMT 17 Oct 85

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 17, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i Wednesday refuted rumours that military forces will be substituted by other forces and said that no attention should be paid to these baseless speculations.

Speaking to a group of commanders and their deputies of the Jerusalem reserve battalions, President Khamene'i referred to the existing deep relations between the army and the people in Iran.

He said that the Islamic Revolution reunited the Iranian people and army, adding that in war time people throughout the world will be forcefully dispatched to warfronts, whereas, he said, the Iranians would voluntarily rush to the battle fields.

He referred to the Islamic Revolution as a new movement against the superpowers and added that both the U.S. and the Soviet Union were finally convinced that Iran has no tendency either towards West or East. "This is the real independence," the president said.

Khamene'i Receives Ambassador to Japan
LD162249 Tehran IRNA in English 1204 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 16, IRNA — The Iranian ambassador to Tokyo 'Abdol Rahim Govahi, met and talked with President 'Ali Khamene'i here Tuesday.

During the meeting Govahi reported to the president on political, trade and technical relations between Iran and Japan. He also reported on the outcome of the recent trip of the Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani to Japan and agreements reached in the trip.

President Khamene'i issued the necessary guidelines and stressed strengthening of mutual relations.

Majlis Speaker Addresses Deputies 16 Oct
LD161631 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Address by Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani to a meeting with Majlis deputies on 16 October — place not specified; recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Praise be to God and greetings to the prophet of God and all his kin. We express our thanks to God for having enabled the Majlis deputies to acquire the blessing of the meeting with the imam of the ummah and our great leader. In the course of this meeting, in these critical and fateful periods in our country and our revolution's history, we expect to receive guidance from the remarks of the leader of the ummah, as always. The situation in the country and the region is clear, and there is no need to elaborate on the issue. Usually in a condition such as the one we are facing today, when we are witnessing the extensive conspiracies of the enemies in the region and in the world and when -- thank God -- as the result of the efforts of the country's responsible officials, the conspiracy to inflict an economic blow and economic paralysis has been crushed and the Islamic Republic demonstrated that she is more conscious of the need for security in the region and in the world than others; while crushing the conspiracy the country succeeded in safeguarding her interests and the security of the Persian Gulf. And, in a political context within the country, as a result of the counsel of our illustrious imam, the Islamic Consultative Assembly gave a vote of confidence to the prime minister. God willing, to the chagrin of our enemies the new cabinet with complete enthusiasm and readiness will be at the service of islam and the revolution in the near future. Under such conditions, we are here to listen to and benefit from the counsel of the beloved master and the illustrious source of imitation.

Foreign Ministry Official Visits Greece
GF170601 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 17 Oct 85

[Text] The director general of political affairs for the Americas and European countries of our country's Foreign Ministry left for Athens yesterday for talks with Greek officials. He is carrying a message for the Greek Foreign minister from Mr Velayati and will discuss bilateral ties and expansion of fields of mutual cooperation between Iran and Greece with the Greek officials.

Ayatollah Jananti Visits Lebanon's Tripoli
LD162313 Tehran IRNA in English 1637 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Beirut, Oct. 16, IRNA — An Islamic Republic of Iran delegation headed by member of the Guardians Council Ayatollah Ahmad Jananti arrived in the port city of Tripoli, Lebanon Tuesday, where it held talks with members of the city's Islamic groups. The delegation also toured areas damaged during three-weeks of fighting between rival militias.

Following a private meeting with leader of the Islamic Towhid Movement Shaykh Sayd Sha'ban, A. Jannati said that the Iranian delegation was visiting Tripoli in order to be acquainted with conditions of Muslims there, who had suffered heavy losses during recent clashes.

He said Iran would continue its material assistance as well as use its influence to end the tension in the city noting that it is in contact with Syrian officials on the matter.

Shaykh Sha'ban termed the Iranian delegation's visit as a manifestation of Islamic unity. He further briefed the delegation on the attacks on people of the city.

Sha'ban said that despite the Damascus Agreement, leftist parties have entered the city with military equipment while Towhid Movement's offices have been closed and their weapons collected.

Syria's Al-Zu'bi Addresses Majlis Delegates

LD162354 Tehran IRNA in English 1841 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Damascus, Oct. 16, IRNA — The speaker of the Syrian People's Council, Mahmud al-Zu'bi stressed here Wednesday the necessity of coordinating Irano-Syrian ties in various fields.

Al-Zu'bi said that a better coordinated program of mutual support could increase the defence capability of both sides against their enemies.

In a meeting with an Iranian parliamentary (Majlis) delegation headed by member of the Islamic Republic Guardians Council, Ayatollah Jannati, the Syrian speaker emphasized that Iran's anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist position as well as its stress on liberation of Jerusalem were the principal reasons why Iran supported Syria. Such mutual resistance and joint positions, Al-Zu'bi added, could neutralize all the conspiracies.

Ayatollah Jannati emphasized the need for unity among Muslims as well as stability in Tripoli. He also said that it was the martyrdom-seeking spirit of southern Lebanese Muslims which enabled them to expel the Zionist occupiers.

International Oil Sources Affirm Khark Oil Flowing

GF152010 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Oct 85

[From "Behind the News" program]

[Excerpt] Yesterday, the ruling regime in Iraq once again announced that its fighters had launched a destructive raid on the Iranian oil terminal at Khark Island. Observers said that it was the 27th raid, described by the rulers of Iraq as a devastating blow to the small island and the oil exporting facilities on it. Iraq has claimed that more than 100 tons of bombs have been dropped on the island. Observers point out that such bombs would be capable of destroying a big city, not to mention a small island like Khark.

Despite the Iraqi regime's continuous allegations and its claims that it has the capability to stop oil exports from Khark Island, international authoritative oil sources have affirmed that the export of crude oil is continuing and that the island is receiving oil super tankers. British petroleum transportation sources also have affirmed this fact. We do not feel it is necessary to prove this fact. The world undoubtedly will hear of this fact and compare it with the allegations made by the Iraqi regime. The Islamic Republic wants the facts of the matter disclosed so that public opinion will learn the reality of the Iraqi rulers and the nature of deception and exaggeration upon which their media is based.

Paper on Syrian-Iranian Relations, Jordan

GF131720 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 19 Sep 85 p 11

[Text] The recent 1-day trip of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam to the Islamic Republic of Iran and his meetings and discussions with the president, speaker of the Majlis, and the prime minister has raised a few questions. One such question is this: Did this trip have anything to do with recent developments in relations between Syria and Jordan?

This question could be one of substance because Mr Khaddam's visit to Iran coincided with the talks in Saudi Arabia between the prime ministers of Syria and Jordan. The Syrian vice president's visit to Iran also followed the efforts of a special committee of the Arab League which has been formed to normalize and improve relations between Syria and Jordan.

Mr Khaddam's answers to questions posed to him by journalists who asked him why he was in Iran also indicated that his trip to Iran was related to the discussions on bettering relations between Jordan and Syria. Khaddam told the reporters that the letter he was carrying from the Syrian president to his Iranian counterpart dealt with "recent developments in the region."

Iran's foreign minister, while bidding farewell to Mr Khaddam at Mehrabad Airport, commented on the talks between Syria and Jordan and said one of the goals of the Syrian vice president's trip to Iran was to exchange views on this issue. Therefore, it was made clear that "recent developments in the region" are clearly the efforts being made to better relations between Syria and Jordan.

Now we can ask this question: Is Syria seeking advice from Iranian officials on whether or not it should improve relations with Jordan? Or has it already made up its mind on the course it should take, and the trip of its vice president to Iran was simply to inform the Iranian officials?

Perhaps we can answer this question by referring to a point made in the speech given by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Majlis, during his meeting with Mr Khaddam. Addressing Mr Khaddam, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: "With the knowledge that we have of you and Syria's policies, we have no doubt that your policies toward the steadfastness front are unchangeable. We hope that one day the basic issues of the Arab world and Islam will be solved and under those circumstances we shall do everything in our power to cooperate with a unified Islamic world."

This speech indicates that Syria has made up its mind and the speaker of Iran's Majlis would like to advise Syria that a change in its policies with regard to the steadfastness front and its uncompromising attitude with regard to the issue of Palestine are the only logical solutions to the issues of the Arab world and Islam. This speech means that improved relations between Syria and Jordan should not mean Syria's acceptance of Jordan's compromising position with regard to the Palestinian issue.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani completes his warning with another sentence and says: "Of course it can be understood that the United States and the region's reactionary forces are trying in any way they can to give Syria a moderate label. They know what a negative effect this would have on the morale and resistance of all the revolutionary peoples of the world."

Therefore, the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran toward what was called "recent developments in the region" is that, no matter what happens, what must not change is the uncompromising attitude toward Palestine and continued struggles until the removal of the cancerous Zionist growth from the region. Only by keeping this position can Syria safeguard its special place in the Arab world. If Syria can, it should try to pull Jordan out of the arms of Zionism, albeit slowly, thereby preparing the grounds for greater unity in the Arab and Islamic world.

This would not only keep Syria's original position, it could also disappoint the United States in its efforts to force the steadfastness front member nations into a moderate stance. It would also expedite events aimed at the removal of the Zionist cancerous growth from the region.

Meanwhile, one still cannot find a logical answer to this question: Will the Jordanian regime be prepared to make changes in its present policies toward the Palestinian issue?

German Ship Stopped, Directred to Port

LD161239 Tehran IRNA in English 1140 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 16, IRNA — A German ship *Ville d'Aurore* was stopped at the Strait of Hormuz on Monday suspicioned [as received] of carrying goods which might increase Iraq's war capability.

Ville d'Aurore was directed towards one of the southern Iranian ports for further investigation.

A military source, commenting in this regard, said that the ship carried 124 containers of goods destined for Kuwait.

Personnel of the Iranian naval forces are inspecting the goods on board the ship, he said.

Iranian officials have repeatedly announced that ships carrying goods which will increase Iraqi war capability, will be prevented from passing through the Strait of hormuz.

Examination of Cargo

LD161726 Tehran IRNA in English 1634 GMT 16 oct 85

[Text] Tehran, Oct 16, IRNA — Iranian naval officials at one of the southern ports of the country began inspection of suspicious cargo of a West German ship intercepted at the Hormuz strait Tuesday. The 12,000 ton ship has a 19-man crew and a 124 container capacity goods. [as received]

A naval official told IRNA that the ship was leased by France.

The inspection of the goods is being conducted on board the ship to determine if there were goods destined for Iraq that would increase that country's military strength.

The ship's crew are from W. Germany, Australia, and the Philippines and are being well treated, the official said.

The Islamic Republic announced three months ago that it would intercept any ship in the Persian Gulf suspected of carrying cargo capable of aiding the Iraqi war effort.

So far many ships have been intercepted and their consignments inspected. Those with strategic goods destined for Iraq have been confiscated.

French Ship Allowed to Proceed to UAE

LD162239 Tehran IRNA in English 2156 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Bandar 'Abbas, Hormusgan prov. Oct. 16, IRNA — A French cargo ship was allowed by the Iranian Navy to head on for the United Arab Emirates after the Islamic Republic Navy was convinced that it is not carrying any goods for Iraq.

Ville de Anbers entered the waters of Strait of Hormuz at 16 hours (12:30 GMT) Wednesday and after its captain assured the Iranian authorities that it's destination was the U.A.E and that it was not carrying any merchandise to Iraq, it was allowed to enter the coastal waters of the U.A.E.

The Iranian naval forces escorted the French ship until it anchored at Jabal-'Ali port in the U.A.E.

The Islamic Republic has announced it will sieze any Iraqi-bound cargo in the Persian Gulf waters, which may strengthen the military capability of the Baghdad regime in its war against Iran.

Volunteers Continue to Leave for Front

GF170555 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 17 Oct 85

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, various districts and cities of our country witnessed the large-scale departure of the combatant people's forces and technical experts to the fields of battle with the Zionist enemy. According to this report, these combatants left for the fields of battle with the Zionist enemy amid warm cheers of the local people from the districts and cities of Esfahan, Khomeynishahr, (Qahtijan), Mobarakeh, Zarrinshahr, Qomsheh, Shahinshahr, Dorcheh, Khansar, Ardestan, Daran, Felavarjan, Kashmar, Sari, Amol, Shiraz, Sepidan, Dehdid, Arsenjan, Firuzabad, Marvdasht, Mamasani, Kazerun, Mehranjan, Ashk-e 'Olya va Sofla, Doshman Ziari Eqlid, and Jahrom, from the environs of Fars Province, Do Gonbadan Boyer Ahmad, Dehdasht, Gazhsaran, and districts of Lendeh, Basht, (Choran), Bahmani, Leshtar, and Deh-e Bozorg-e Sisakht of Kohkiluyeh va boyer Ahmad Province.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,260

LD161707 Tehran IRNA in English 1628 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 16, IRNA — The joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces reported here Wednesday that over the past 24 hours Iranian combatants shelled Iraqi positions in western fronts, killing or wounding at least 15 Iraqi troops and destroying

eight bunkers, two vehicles, and one personnel carrier of the enemy.

Announcing this in its Communique Number 2260, the command said that during the said period, artillery exchange between Iranian forces and Iraqi troops was heavier in Mehran and Sare Pol-e Zahab in western fronts.

In northwestern fronts, the command said, a number of Iraqi troops were killed or wounded and parts of the enemy war material including several bunkers, two vehciles, and one mortar launcher were destroyed during artillery battles on Tuesday.

Movement of an enemy vehicle column was also halted in these fronts.

An Iraqi patrol unit with an estimated strength of 40 soldiers around the region of Ain-Khosh in southern fronts was subjected to Iranian artillery fire and was forced to flee, the communique said.

Elsewhere in the southern fronts, the communique said, Iraqi troops sustained casualties and losses during artillery duels with Iranian fighters Tuesday.

Iran's gendarmerie forces traded artillery fire with Iraqi Ba'thists across the Arvand River over the past 24 hours, killing and wounding a number of the enemy forces, lessening the enemy engineering activities and silencing their artillery, the communique said.

The communique concluded that a few buildings in Abadan in Khuzestan Province were wrecked by enemy artillery fire over the past 24 hours.

Abadan Shelled

GF161358 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, parts of the resistant city of Abadan and villages around it were shelled several times during the past 24 hours by the heavy artillery of the Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi enemy. As a result, four homes and parts of the city were damaged. According to an IRNA report, these base crimes of the regime of Iraq resulted in the death of one of our compatriots in a village near Abadan yesterday.

IRNA Reports Afghan Radio Stations Destroyed

LD162259 Tehran IRNA in English 1528 GMT 16 Oct 85

[Text] London, Oct. 16, IRNA — Afghan mujahidin destroyed a wireless station in Qandahar cantonment, killing even Karmal troops including Colonel Abdul Latif and injuring several others, according to the London-based AFGHAN PRESS AGENCY.

The report added that a group of mujahidin launched a missile attack on the wireless station on October 4th during which three Karmal troops defected to the ranks of mujahidin.

A couple of days ago, the mujahidin had wiped out the wirless station near the headquarters of Arghustan.